

MARKET HARBOROUGH  
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

# Annual Report

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

For the Year 1951

R. W. KIND, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health



# Market Harborough Rural District Council

## ANNUAL REPORT

### VITAL STATISTICS

Area (in acres) ... ..	45,166
No. of inhabited houses (end of 1951) according to rate books ... ..	2,940
Rateable Value, 1st April, 1951 ... ..	£42,488
Sum represented by a penny rate ... ..	£173 15 7

#### POPULATION :—

Registrar General's estimate ... .. 9,915

TABLE showing the Registrar General's estimate of the population trends during the past ten years :—

1942 ...	9,448	1947 ...	9,311
1943 ...	9,497	1948 ...	9,810
1944 ...	9,110	1949 ...	9,900
1945 ...	8,713	1950 ...	9,660
1946 ...	8,809	1951 ...	9,915

#### BIRTHS :—

				1950	1951
Live Births :—		Legitimate Male ... ..	...	92	78
		Female ... ..	...	81	78
		Total ... ..	...	173	156
Illegitimate		Male ... ..	...	1	1
		Female ... ..	...	2	3
		Total ... ..	...	3	4
Total live births		Male ... ..	...	93	79
		Female ... ..	...	83	81
		Total ... ..	...	176	160
Stillbirths :—		Legitimate Male ... ..	...	4	Nil
		Female ... ..	...	8	2
		Total ... ..	...	12	2

*Birthrate per 1,000 estimated population :—*

			1950	1951
Market Harborough	...	...	18.2	16.1
England and Wales	...	...	15.8	15.5

*Illegitimate birthrate per 1,000 live births :—*

Market Harborough	...	...	17.0	25.0
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*Stillbirths :—Rate per 1,000 live and still-birth :—*

...	...	...	69.1	18.5
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*Rate per 1,000 estimated population :—*

Market Harborough	...	...	1.2	0.20
England and Wales	...	...	0.37	0.36

TABLE showing the changes in the total live births and in the birth rates during the past ten years :—

Year	Total Live Births, Market Harborough	Birth Rates (per 1,000 population)		
		Market Harborough	Leicester-shire	England & Wales
1942	114	12.1	17.3	15.8
1943	167	17.6	19.6	16.5
1944	181	19.9	21.1	17.6
1945	134	15.4	18.8	16.1
1946	172	19.5	20.6	19.1
1947	193	20.1	21.2	20.5
1948	165	17.1	18.84	17.9
1949	188	18.9	17.35	16.7
1950	176	18.2	16.17	15.8
1951	160	16.1	16.02	15.5

*DEATHS :—*

			1950	1951
<i>Total Number of Deaths :—</i>				
Male	...	...	61	56
Female	...	...	62	54
Total	...	...	123	110

*Death rate per 1,000 estimated population :—*

Market Harborough	...	...	12.5	11.0
England and Wales	...	...	11.6	12.5

TABLE showing the changes in the total number of deaths and in the death rates during the past ten years :—

Year	Total Deaths, Market Harborough	Death Rate (per 1,000 population)		
		Market Harborough	Leicester- shire	England & Wales
1942	118	12.5	10.4	11.6
1943	111	11.7	11.3	12.1
1944	107	11.7	11.2	11.6
1945	134	15.4	11.1	11.4
1946	87	9.9	10.7	11.5
1947	113	12.1	11.3	12.0
1948	101	10.29	9.77	10.8
1949	116	11.7	10.68	11.7
1950	123	12.5	10.28	11.6
1951	110	11.0	10.74	12.5

Deaths from puerperal causes :—

			1950	1951
<i>No. of deaths :—</i>				
Puerperal sepsis	...	...	—	—
Other puerperal causes	...	...	—	—

*Rate per 1,000 live and stillbirths :—*

Market Harborough	...	...	—	—
England and Wales	...	...	0.86	0.79

*Death of Infants under 1 year of age :—*

No. of deaths :—Legitimate Male	...	...	2	2
Female	...	...	2	3
Total	...	...	4	5

*Infant Mortality per 1,000 live births :—*

Market Harborough	...	...	22.7	31.2
England and Wales	...	...	29.8	29.6

*Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age :—*

Legitimate Male	...	...	...	1	1
Female	...	...	...	1	2
Total	...	...	...	2	3



## CAUSES OF DEATH.

*Registrar General's Classification.*

						1951		
						Male	Female	Total
1.	Tuberculosis, respiratory	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
2.	Tuberculosis, other	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
3.	Syphilitic disease	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
4.	Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
5.	Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	—	1	1
6.	Meningococcal infections	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
7.	Acute poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
8.	Measles	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
9.	Other infective and parasitic diseases	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
10.	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	...	...	...	...	—	3	3
11.	Malignant neoplasm, bronchus and lung	...	...	...	...	1	1	2
12.	Malignant neoplasm, breast	...	...	...	...	—	1	1
13.	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	...	...	...	...	—	1	1
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	...	...	...	...	2	2	4
15.	Leukaemia and aleukaemia	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
16.	Diabetes	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
17.	Vascular lesions of the nervous system	...	...	...	...	2	7	9
18.	Coronary disease and angina	...	...	...	...	5	4	9
19.	Hypertension with heart disease	...	...	...	...	1	1	2
20.	Other heart disease	...	...	...	...	16	15	31
21.	Other circulatory disease	...	...	...	...	5	2	7
22.	Influenza	...	...	...	...	2	1	3
23.	Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	3	4	7
24.	Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	3	2	5
25.	Other diseases of the respiratory system	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
27.	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
28.	Nephritis and nephrosia	...	...	...	...	1	2	3
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth and abortion	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
31.	Congenital malformations	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	...	...	...	...	6	5	11
33.	Motor vehicle accidents	...	...	...	...	2	—	2
34.	All other accidents	...	...	...	...	—	2	2
35.	Suicide	...	...	...	...	2	—	2
36.	Homicide and operations of war	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
All causes ... .. TOTAL						56	54	110

## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Sanitary Inspector :—Mr. R. W. Turner.

I am indebted to Mr. R. W. Turner for the following information upon the sanitary circumstances of the area : --

*WATER SUPPLY.*

Mains supplies where provided are satisfactory. Well supplies continue to be a danger to health.

Water supplies were more satisfactory in respect to quantity than in previous years and cartage of small amounts was necessary only at Husbands Bosworth, Stonton Wyville, Great Easton and Mowsley.

Samples of mains supplies of water taken for bacteriological and chemical analysis by the suppliers were found to be satisfactory.

(a) Number of dwelling houses having a piped			
water supply laid into the houses	...	...	1,912
(b) Number of parishes with a piped water supply—			
from public mains	...	...	12
from private reservoirs	...	...	2
(c) Number of parishes without a piped supply			
of water	...	...	17

Negotiations are still proceeding between this Council and the Market Harborough Urban District Council regarding a mains supply to the parishes of Husbands Bosworth and Theddingworth, and permission has been given in the cases of Mowsley, Laughton and Gumley for these parishes to be supplied by the Leicester Corporation. Due to shortages of materials a delay of two years is expected.

The East Leicestershire Scheme which covers the remaining parishes in the area is still in the primary stages. This is because the Leicester Corporation, who would be the suppliers, are changing from the Derwent Valley to the River Dove Scheme.

No. of wells cleansed, etc. (public)	...	...	8
No. of houses relying on well supplies	...	...	937
No. of wells closed	...	...	2
No. of samples taken from wells for chemical analysis—			
(a) Satisfactory	...	...	2
(b) Unsatisfactory	...	...	—

### *SEWAGE DISPOSAL.*

No. of cesspools constructed during the year	...	12
No. of cesspools abolished during the year	...	2
Total number in the district, December 31st, 1951		209

There are nine filter systems and three land irrigation sewage disposal systems in the district.

### *POST WAR SCHEMES.*

New sewers for Smeeton Westerby and joint outfall works at Kibworth are still under construction.

New sewers and outfall works at Saddington are in progress.

Schemes for Theddingworth, Drayton and Shangton and four of the five Langtons (four Langtons—three schemes), which have been designed by the Council's Engineers, are still no more advanced regarding Ministry approval than they were when the 1949 Report was presented to you.

### *CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.*

Total numbers in the district on 31st Dec., 1951 :—

(a) Privies	...	...	...	...	...	165
(b) Pail Closets	...	...	...	...	...	84
(c) Water Closets	...	...	...	...	...	2,460



Number of privies converted to the water carriage system during the year ... ..	—
Number of pail closets converted to the water carriage system during the year ... ..	12

All earth closets and privies are cleansed by the occupiers. During the year a dual purpose vehicle (cesspool emptier and refuse collector) has been purchased by the Council, and it is proposed to cleanse public cesspools at three-monthly intervals, and to cleanse private cesspools on request.

### *PUBLIC CLEANSING.*

House refuse is removed fortnightly by direct labour. Two motor vehicles, one of five, one of seven cubic yards capacity (covered), are used. These cover the whole area. Trade refuse is removed on application. Charges are made up in accordance with the time and distance from the nearest tip.

Four crude tips are in use at Kibworth, Foxton, Hallaton and Mowsley.

### *SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.*

Total number of complaints received ... ..	59
Total number of defects or nuisances discovered	172

#### *Sanitary Inspections of the Area :—*

Animal Keeping ... ..	—
Bakehouses ... ..	4
Dairies and Cowsheds ... ..	149
Drainage Works ... ..	1,452
Dwelling Houses (all purposes) ... ..	752
Food premises ... ..	30
Offensive Trades ... ..	—
Rodent Control ... ..	294
Refuse Collection and Disposal ... ..	233
Schools ... ..	1
Shops ... ..	200
Slaughterhouses and Meat Inspection ... ..	5
Tents, Vans, Sheds, etc. ... ..	17
Verminous Premises ... ..	2
Water Supplies ... ..	1,284
Workshops, etc. ... ..	54
Other Inspections ... ..	224
Total Inspections ... ..	4,706

*Notices served during the year :—*

	Housing	Public Health
Outstanding on January 1st, 1951 ...	4	6
Issued during year ... ..	43	85
Complied with during year ... ..	42	87
Statutory action necessary ... ..	—	—
Outstanding on December 31st, 1951	5	4

*Camping Sites.*

No. of sites in area used for camping purposes during the year ... ..	None used frequently.
No. of camping sites for which licences have been issued for individual caravans only ... ..	19

*RODENT CONTROL.*

Tips are regularly disinfected by Contract with the L.A.E.C. Clearing of small infestations carried out by Council workmen, and occupiers charged on time and material basis. Sewers in the parishes of Kibworth Beauchamp, Kibworth Harcourt and Lubenham were cleared by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries operators in conjunction with the Public Health Department.

*SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.*

No. in the area (a) publicly owned ... ..	Nil.
(b) privately owned ... ..	1
No. of inspections made ... ..	1

*INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.*

*MILK.*

*Dairies (other than dairy farms) and Distributors, Section 8, Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949.*

*Dairies.*

No. on Register ... ..	3
Inspections made ... ..	32

*Distributors.*

No. on Register ... ..	5
Inspections made ... ..	15

*Milk (Special Designations) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949.*

Dealers' licences issued—

Pasteurised	...	...	...	...	...	—
Sterilised	...	...	...	...	...	—

Supplementary licences issued—

Pasteurised	...	...	...	...	...	1
Sterilised	...	...	...	...	...	—

*Milk (Special Designations) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949.*

Dealers' licences issued	...	...	...	...	2
Supplementary licences issued	...	...	...	...	—

*Milk Sampling :—*

*Ordinary Milk—*

No. of samples taken for bacteriological examination	...	...	...	...	55
No. found to be satisfactory	...	...	...	...	54
No. found to be unsatisfactory	...	...	...	...	1

*Biological Examination of Milk.*

The one sample of milk found to be infected with tubercle bacilli was investigated and resulted in the slaughter of an infected cow.

*ICE CREAM.*

*No. of premises registered :—*

Manufacture and retail	...	...	...	...	—
Manufacture only	...	...	...	...	—
Retail only	...	...	...	...	14
No. of samples taken	...	...	...	...	—

The greater part of the area is serviced by ice cream vendors from Leicester, Uppingham and Market Harborough.

## MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

There are no Regional Slaughterhouses in the area. Pigs slaughtered by local cottagers are examined on request. There are no Knackers' Yards in the area.

*Food Condemned during the year :—*

Tinned Ham ... ..	65 lbs.
Bacon ... ..	24 lbs.
Mixed tinned meats ... ..	74 lbs.
No. of inspections made at meat shops, stores, etc.	65
No. of inspections made at places where food, other than meat, is prepared ... ..	170

## HOUSING.

1. *New Houses.*

Total number of applications for Council Houses at the end of the year ... ..	485
No. of houses completed during the year by Local Authority (permanent) ... ..	30
Average cost per house ... ..	£1,525
Average rent, inc. or exc. of rates ... ..	13/6
Houses completed by private enterprise ... ..	8
Houses in course of erection at end of year, by Local Authority (permanent) ... ..	27
Average cost per house ... ..	£1,525
Average rent ... ..	13/6
Total number of post-war houses completed :—	
(1) Local Authority ... ..	217
(2) Private Enterprise ... ..	25

2. *Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the year.*

(a) Total number of houses inspected during the year for Housing Defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ... ..	251
No. of inspections made for the purpose ...	427
(b) No. of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be in a state unfit for human habitation ... ..	11



- (c) No. of houses (exclusive of those referred to in sub-heading preceding), found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ... .. 235
3. *Remedy of Defects during the year without service of Formal Notice.*
- No. of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or its Officers ... .. 42
4. *Action under Statutory Powers during the year.*
- A Closing Order was made in respect of one house.
5. *Housing Act, 1936, Part IV, Overcrowding.*
- The extent of overcrowding is unknown.

*General Observations.*

Generally speaking, the housing conditions, especially in small villages, are very poor and owing to the very low rents paid, great difficulty has been experienced in getting anything other than minor repairs carried out.

## INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

The common infectious diseases followed the expected trends. The incidence of certain of these diseases is shown in tabular form analysed into age and sex distribution.

*Immunisation.*

Facilities for immunisation against diphtheria continue to be provided free under the terms of the National Health Service Act. 152 children received their primary inoculation, whilst a further 71 children of school age received further treatment to prolong their immunity.

*Tuberculosis.*

The new cases and deaths from tuberculosis are displayed in tabular form showing the age and sex distribution.

At the close of the year there were 35 cases of pulmonary and 8 cases of non-pulmonary tuberculosis on the Register.



# INFECTIOUS DISEASES

TABLE 1. Table showing the cases of infectious diseases notified during the year:—

Age Group	Scarlet Fever		Whooping Cough		Measles		Acute Pneumonia		Dysentery		Acute Poliomyelitis	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
1	—	—	—	1	2	4	—	—	—	—	—	—
3	1	—	—	—	5	4	—	—	1	—	—	—
5	4	4	—	—	10	5	—	—	—	—	—	—
10	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
Total:	5	5	—	1	19	15	2	1	1	—	1	—

TABLE 2. Table showing new cases and deaths from Tuberculosis during the year:—

Age Group	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
5	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—
10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
45	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total:	2	1	—	3	1	—	—	—

*Factories Act, 1937 and 1948.*

Premises.	No. on Register.	Inspections made.
(1) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authority	20	11
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is to be enforced by Local Authority	55	37
(3) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises)	15	6
Total :	90	54

*Outwork (Section 110 and 111).*

Nature of Work.	No. of Workers on List.
Wearing apparel—Making, etc.	85

*National Assistance Act, 1948.*

Action was necessary in one case under Section 74 of this Act and an elderly woman was removed to hospital where she died ten days later.

Persuasive methods were used to secure the departure to hospital of two other cases.









